

News Briefs

Back to school party

A back to school party begins at 9 p.m. today at the enlisted club. Back to school costumes are encouraged. Awards will be given for best dressed, geeky gear, bullies and teachers' pets. Food is free and beverage specials are available.

SAVE briefing

The next Suicide and Violence Education and Awareness briefing is from 3:30 to 4:15 p.m. Monday. Both military and civilian BLAZE TEAM members are required to attend if they have not had this briefing within the last 15 months. For more information, call Ext. 2239.

Education center closure

The education center will close from 1:45 to 3:15 p.m. Tuesday in order to allow the staff to attend a video teleconference training session. BLAZE TEAM members are encouraged to plan accordingly. For questions or more information, call Ext. 2562.

Dorm dinner

The August dorm dinner is at 5 p.m. Thursday at the chapel annex. The menu is pulled pork barbecue. All donated side items, such as corn, potato salad, cold slaw or baked beans, must be dropped off at the chapel annex by 4:30 p.m. Thursday. Door prize drawings will be conducted and a Bible study will follow the dinner for those who would like to attend. For more information, call Ext. 2500 or contact a first sergeant.

Inside



FEATURE 10

SUPT Class 05-13 graduates at 10 a.m. today during a ceremony at the base theater.

Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

Aug. 12, 2005

Prideful work



Airman Alyssa Wallace Kenneth Harris, 14th Civil Engineer Squadron, shows base housing resident Lori Willett the variety of items available at the self-help Pride Store. Housing occupants and building custodians experiencing problems with fire ants or wasps can stop by the Pride Store for Amdro or wasp killer. Hours of operation are from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, call Ext. 7357.

‘Freedom Walk’ to commemorate 9/11

Steven Donald Smith
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Department of Defense officials announced Tuesday the first “America Supports You” Freedom Walk to honor the victims of Sept. 11, 2001, and America’s servicemembers, as well as to celebrate freedom.

The Freedom Walk will begin at 10 a.m. Sept. 11 in the Pentagon south parking lot, near the site where the airliner crashed into the Pentagon. The walk route will consist of a two-mile trek through Arlington National

Cemetery, over the Potomac River, and will end by the reflecting pool on the National Mall. It will include many of the major monuments in Washington, D.C., reminding participants of the sacrifices of this generation and of each previous generation that have so successfully defended our freedoms.”

“I am proud and honored to be part of the America Supports You Freedom Walk to honor the victims of 9/11 and to support our men and women in uniform,” Mr. Black said.

“Every year since the Sept. 11 attacks, Americans have commemorated that anniversary,” said Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld. “This year the Department of Defense will initiate an ‘American Supports You’

Freedom Walk. The walk will begin at the Pentagon and end at the National Mall. It will include many of the major monuments in Washington, D.C., reminding participants of the sacrifices of this generation and of each previous generation that have so successfully defended our freedoms.”

“America Supports You” is a nationwide program launched by the Defense Department with the goal of highlighting how Americans across the country are supporting the men and women of the armed forces.

See **FREEDOM**, Page 3

Bagram runway reopens after C-17 incident

Capt. Mark D. Gibson
455th Air Expeditionary Wing

BAGRAM AB, Afghanistan — A C-17 Globemaster III rolled off the runway while landing here Saturday, damaging its nose and right main landing gears.

As a result, the runway was closed, but quick action and creative thinking by Air Force and Army engineers had the runway fully active again in less than 30 hours. There were no injuries in the incident. The cause of the incident is under investigation.

When it came to rest, one of the C-17’s wings extended over the active runway, so the aircraft had to be moved. However, air operations continued while the C-17 was moved off the active runway. The C-17 measures 174 feet long with a wingspan of 169 feet. It is operated by a crew of three and can carry up to 170,000 lbs of cargo.

Aircraft from here diverted to other airfields and were able to continue combat missions supporting ground forces. Coalition air forces also assisted in ensuring constant airpower was maintained over the battlefield during aircraft recovery operations.

Nevertheless, moving the aircraft proved to be a complicated process, said Col. Donald Jones, 455th Expeditionary Mission Support Group commander, who directed the effort.

“It took one big team to brainstorm and come up with the tools and methods we needed,” he said.

The hardest part of the process, he said, was determining a way to lift the nose of the aircraft without further damaging it.

First the fuel and cargo needed to be removed. The team removed 105,000 pounds of fuel and unloaded 55,000

pounds of cargo, with the remaining gross weight of the aircraft estimated at 3 0 0 , 0 0 0 pounds.

Because of the tilt of the aircraft, the cargo could not be removed by forklift through the cargo door. The cargo pallets had to be broken down into individual

boxes, pieces and parts were removed through the crew door.

Next the team had to replace the C-17’s unusable landing gear. Their solution was a flatbed trailer, crane and railroad ties.

The aircraft was lifted with the crane, inches at a time, and wood was placed under the nose to support it. The team backed the flatbed tractor trailer under the nose and removed the wood. Straps were tied to the trailer and passed through the pilot’s windows and open doors to secure the aircraft onto the truck.

The team assembled metal airfield matting provided by Army engineers to roll the aircraft onto the runway. The Army engineers also provided two bulldozers and the flatbed to drag the aircraft back onto the runway to a parking ramp.

“Once again, we had great cooperation between the Air Force and Army here,” said Army Col. Michael Flanagan, 18th Engineer Brigade and Task Force Sword commander. “We worked together as a



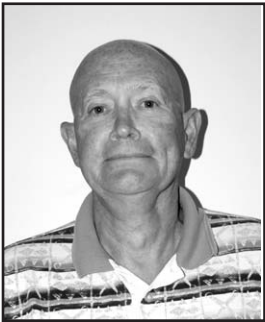
Capt. Mark D. Gibson Airmen and Soldiers join forces to move a C-17 Globemaster III that ran off the runway at Bagram AB, Afghanistan, Saturday.

team to get a job done in one night that many people thought would take four days. This is the best cooperative effort between the Air Force and Army that I have seen in my 26-year career.”

Colonel Jones, knowing the priority was getting the runway open, orchestrated the two bulldozers, the flatbed and a ring of people around the aircraft. They used hand signals and walkie-talkies as they inched the aircraft down the runway through three 90-degree turns to its parking spot.

“We had to get this runway open and get A-10 (Thunderbolt IIs) in the air to provide close air support for Soldiers on the ground,” Colonel Jones said.

“I am extremely proud of the way our Airmen, Soldiers and civilians came together, devised a solution to this unique challenge, and safely made it happen to quickly restore airfield operations,” said Brig. Gen. Bruce Burda, 455th Air Expeditionary Wing commander.



Bernie Jarboe
14th Logistics
Readiness Division



The 14th Flying Training Wing thanks Mr. Jarboe for **positive attitude and outstanding attention to detail** while managing critical mission capable assets affecting all air ground equipment and communications squadron components.

14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, **26 BLAZE TEAM members are deployed** worldwide.

Remember to support the troops and their families while they are away.



SILVER WINGS

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Submission Deadline

The deadline for submitting copy for next week’s SILVER WINGS is noon Monday. Articles may be dropped off at the public affairs office or e-mailed.

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Submit all advertising to the Columbus, Miss., Commercial Dispatch advertising department one week prior to desired publication date. The advertising department can be reached at (662) 328-2427.

COLUMBUS AFB TRAINING TIMELINE

PHASE II				PHASE III				WING SORTIE BOARD			
Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Track Select	Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation	Aircraft	Required	Flown	Annual
37th (06-07)	1.05 days	-0.86 days	Sept. 2	48th (05-13)	0 days	1.52 days	Today	T-37	1,076	989	26,563
41st (06-06)	0 days	-0.75 days	Aug. 11	50th (05-13)	1.67 days	2.40 days	Today	T-38C	471	450	12,650
								T-1A	410	430	11,654

Graduation speaker: Col. Mike Holmes, 4th Fighter Wing commander

Staff sergeant selects

The 14th Flying Training Wing congratulates the following Airmen on their selection to staff sergeant:

Jennifer Anilao, 14th Communications Squadron; **Kristi Arndt**, 14th Medical Operations Squadron; **Dustin Ashmore**, 14th Operations Support Squadron; **Mary Evelyn Baxter**, 14th Comptroller Squadron; **Joann Bonzi**, 14th Security Forces Squadron; **Christopher Braddock**, 14th OSS; **Michael Bradford**, 14th MDOS; **Steven Camillieri**, 14th OSS; **James Chase**, 50th Flying Training Squadron; **Sheila Deleon**, 14th Flying Training Wing; **Jesus Espinoza-Ogarcia**, 14th MDOS; **Evangeline Guidry**, 14h CS; **Ronald Hale**, 14th CS; **Jeremiah Johnson**, 14th CS; **Latasha Kelly**, 14th OSS; **Sandra Labiche**, 14th OSS; **John Lyman**, 14th OSS; **Nicole Paille**, 14th MDOS; **Hyun Park**, 14th Services Division; **Adam Parnell**, 41st Flying Training Squadron; **Joseph Rimmer**, 14th OSS; **Jon Stenstad**; 14th Civil Engineer Squadron; **Tchenevia Stewart**, 37th Flying Training Squadron; **Donnie Stone Jr.**, 14th SFS; **Daniel Swindle**, 14th Mission Support Squadron; **Mark Thompson**, 14th OSS; and **John Verzal**; 14th CS.

Long Term Care Insurance ... a small price to pay

RANDOLPH AFB, TX — Active-duty Airmen, some reservists, appropriated-fund civilian employees, retirees and qualified family members can still apply for the Federal Long-Term Care Insurance Program.

The program can help federal employees defray the costs of in-home care, nursing-home care, or assisted-living facilities for people no longer able to perform normal daily activities because of chronic-health conditions.

“Long term care insurance isn’t just for old age - nearly 40 percent of people needing long term care are under age 65,” said Ms. Janet Thomas, human resources specialist at the Air Force Personnel Center here.

“Health insurance will cover hospitalization and medical care, but not necessarily long term care,” she said. The Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program provides protection from the potentially high cost of long term care.”

The FLTCIP is the largest program in the nation,

she said. It is sponsored by the Office of Personnel Management and provides affordable group premiums and comprehensive benefits.

Two types of plans are available:

*** Facilities-Only Plan:** This covers all levels of nursing home, assisted living facility and inpatient hospice care.

*** Comprehensive Plan:** This covers everything the Facilities-Only Plan covers, plus care provided at home by a nurse, home health aide, therapist, informal caregiver or other authorized provider. Costs of adult day care centers and home hospices are covered as well.

Those eligible for the program include:

- ❑ Federal employees and annuitants
- ❑ Separated Federal employees with title to a deferred annuity
- ❑ Active and retired military members
- ❑ Active members of the Selected Reserve
- ❑ Surviving spouses receiving a survivor annuity

❑ Retired “grey” reservists even if they are not receiving retirement pay

❑ Compensationers receiving compensation from the Department of Labor

- ❑ The current spouse of an eligible person
- ❑ Adult children of living eligible people
- ❑ Parents, parents-in-law, and stepparents of living eligible people

Premiums are based on applicant’s age, so the sooner people apply, the smaller premium they will pay, according to Ms. Thomas.

Once enrolled, coverage will not be canceled as long as premiums are paid on time and coverage can’t be canceled due to age or a change in health.

For more information, call (800) 582-3337, TTY (800) 843-3557, or visit online at www.LTCFEDS.com. Representatives are available weekdays 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Eastern Time. *(Courtesy of Air Force Personnel Center News)*

Stabilator failure caused F-15 crash

LANGLEY AFB, Va. — The failure of one of an F-15 Eagle’s horizontal stabilators caused its pilot to lose control of his aircraft and crash during a training mission March 25, an Air Combat Command Investigation Board report on Tuesday.

The crash occurred during defensive basic fighter maneuver training with another aircraft about 45 miles north of Nellis AFB, Nev., when the

pilot was executing a left rudder roll and the aircraft went out of control and entered a low-rate erect spin.

After five revolutions with no recovery, the pilot ejected safely with no injuries. The \$47-million dollar aircraft was destroyed on impact.

Investigators also determined the out-of-control/departure recovery checklist caused the aircraft’s failure to recover from the spin. *(Courtesy of ACC News Service)*

Pioneer Clubs offer faith-filled education

Airman Alyssa Wallace

14th Flying Training Wing

Ages 2 to 12 are invited to attend the Pioneer Clubs at 6 p.m. Wednesdays at the base chapel beginning Aug. 24.

Pioneer Clubs is a 32-week program that helps educate youth about faith and the Bible.

The Pioneer Clubs program began more than 60 years ago and has chapters in every state of the country — as well as every providence in Canada — serving

more than 3,000 churches and more than 140,000 children.

The Columbus AFB chapter began last year after child attendance increased at the chapel’s weekday Bible study.

“Pioneer Clubs helps teach children how to make Christ a part of every aspect in their lives,” said Ida Hall, program coordinator.

Ms. Hall said the program will help children enter into a personal relationship with Christ and His word.

Children are divided into five classes — ages 2 to 3,

ages 4 to 5, first through third graders and fourth through seventh graders. Each class will have an opening activity, Bible story and exploration. Snacks will be served each night.

There will be many activities outside the chapel during the program including bowling, skating, swimming, hiking and a Hallelujah Fest.

Instructional help is still needed. Registration forms for children and volunteers are located at the chapel. For more information, call Ms. Hall at Ext. 2500.

DOD launches deployment health, family readiness library

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Servicemembers, their families and their health-care providers have a new online Defense Department resource for deployment health issues.

The DOD’s Deployment Health Risk Communication Working Group and the Joint Task Force for Family Readiness Education on Deployments have joined together to create the Deployment Health and Family Readiness Library.

Ellen Embrey, deputy assistant secretary of defense for force health protection and readiness, announced the new online library Aug. 9. It is intended to provide servicemembers, families and health-care providers a quick and easy way to find information about deployment health and family readiness.

“Information is a powerful tool. We must remain proactive

in providing deployment-related health information to better safeguard our servicemembers,” she said. “Most people fear the unknown. Through accurate, timely information we are able to ensure that our servicemembers are better equipped to prepare for, cope with, and recover from the myriad health risks faced during deployments.”

The online library includes fact sheets, guides and other products on a wide variety of health topics. The topic listing was based on feedback from servicemembers, their families and health-care providers, Ms. Embrey said. Information will be added to the site as new topics and areas of concern emerge, she added.

In focus-group meetings, servicemembers and their families have said their need for information varies before, during and after deployments, Ms. Embrey

said. Leaders, in particular, look for accurate information before the deployment. While servicemembers are deployed, their families are especially interested in getting deployment health-related information, and following deployments, both servicemembers and families look for this information, she said.

Many information sources are available online, but Ms. Embrey said that too often it is difficult to tell if the information source is accurate.

“We are absolutely committed to providing the best information found in sound science and based on medical evidence,” Ms. Embrey said. “We want this site to be the authoritative source for deployment health and family readiness information. This is another step we are taking to ensure that those who protect our country and our freedoms are also protected.”

Happy Birthday

U.S. Air Force

The Department of the Air Force was born Sept. 18, 1947 when the first Secretary of the Air Force, W. Stuart Symington was sworn in and the U.S. Army transferred over all air activities.

2005 Air Force Ball

Sept. 17
Trotter Convention Center
123 Fifth Street North

Keynote speaker is Gen. Norton Schwartz, commander of U.S. Transportation Command

Cocktails at 6 p.m.
Dinner at 7 p.m.

Contact a first sergeant for ticket information



Safe and sound

Staff Sgt. Clifton Somers, 14th Medical Support Squadron, reviews child safety seat instructions with Bill Wright, wing safety representative, to identify weight, age and height limitations. All BLAZE TEAM members can request a child safety seat inspection at no charge. To make an appointment, call the wing safety office at Ext. 2522.



2nd Lt. William Robe


The United States Air Force Spouse Pin Program



U.S. AIR FORCE

Recognizing the Spouses of America's Air Force

www.yourguardiansoffreedom.com



Be loyal to your Airmen

Good supervisors recognize, prioritize

Lt. Col. Tony Marrazzo
14th Operations
Support Squadron



Recently, my wife and I dealt with the emotional experience of sending one of our crowning achievements — our son — off to a residential school. Ever since the application process began last November, it has been a difficult experience to deal with.

We found ourselves wondering if he would survive without us to help him with homework, how he would do socially and so on. Even now, we deal with the pain of letting him go and wonder if it was the right decision.

After just a short while, however, it appears he is really enjoying himself; and although there is an emptiness at home (I have to mow the lawn and take out the garbage again and as the only male in the house, I tend to lose the decision about what to watch on TV), my wife, daughter and I are able to spend a little more quality time together that we didn't have before.

As supervisors at work, we have all probably experienced the similar loss of letting go some of our finest personnel. It would be so much easier to sit back and keep those subordinates that worked

so hard to ensure we had a successful outcome during the recent operational readiness inspection.

However, as important a duty it is to provide loyalty to our superiors, it is critically important to be loyal to those that work for us.

Are you one of those supervisors that focus on cleaning out folders and emails rather than prioritizing personnel reports, awards of recognition and recommendations for new assignments? If so, I suggest you stop and reconsider your priorities.

As parents, it should be our No. 1 priority to take care of our children and ensure that they achieve the highest potential commensurate with their abilities, even if this means letting them move away from home.

Likewise, as a supervisor or commander, we must avoid the tendency to drag our feet and realize that our finest individuals need to move on in order to succeed. How many times have we actually seen an organization fall apart because of the departure of one key individual?

How many times have you called back to one of your old organizations, only to find that nobody knew who you were and they were getting along fine with-

out you?

The military is a culture intentionally designed for continuous change. It would be so easy to have one job in one location for an entire career, but this situation fails to promote fresh, new ideas.

The suburban landscape is littered with businesses that closed down because they failed to generate new ideas and thus, new business. By taking time to promote our subordinates for better jobs and aspirations, we develop loyalty within the organization.

Subordinates begin to work because they know that their efforts will be recognized, and they will ultimately be "pushed" for the jobs they desire most. Likewise, our military will continue to generate fresh, new ideas rather than accepting the status quo.

If you find yourself saying "no" to change and simply accepting old policies, you may be turning a blind eye to a growing problem.

Have you taken the time to honestly assess your organization's level of motivation and morale? Do you find yourself accepting each day as "ground hog day?" Just as children tend to take on their

parents' outlook on life, organizations take on the personality of their supervisors. If you are just getting by, waking up each morning, walking into the building then running into your office to "get the job done," it is probably time to shake up your own priorities. Accept change, promote your finest, and then let them go.

"Are you one of those supervisors that focus on cleaning out folders and emails rather than prioritizing personnel reports, awards of recognition and recommendations for new assignments?"

At home, with the new school year beginning, find a new activity to take your children's place when they leave. At work, take the time to counsel, write about and recognize your subordinates, and then find a new motivated subordinate to replace the old one.

When I leave Columbus AFB, the best I can hope for isn't my name on some plaque and a bunch of folks standing around saying, "He sure did a great job!" I hope that my finest remember me for how well I treated them and how hard I worked to promote them for a better job at a new location.

Later in life, the pain you endure while letting go of your finest will be rewarded when they contact you to tell you about all they have achieved and how much they owe you for your loyalty.

Straight Talk Line

The Straight Talk Line is your direct line to the commander for comments and suggestions on how to make Columbus AFB better. Although the Straight Talk Line is always available, the best way to resolve problems is through the chain of command.

The Straight Talk Line phone number is 434-7058. Callers should leave their full name and phone number to receive an answer.

All names are kept confidential. Messages are answered in Silver Wings without names.

Written questions may be dropped off at the public affairs office in the wing headquarters building, Bldg. 724.

People can also access the Straight Talk program through the Blazeweb at <https://columbusweb> and the main Web site at www.columbus.af.mil. Questions and answers will be edited for brevity.

Col. Lela Holden

Air Force Surgeon General Office

As my husband and I prepare for a transfer to another base and mission, we have been making plans to take leave in Texas.

As we're looking at the map and discussing the options of flying versus driving, I'm reminded of the many choices and possibilities involved with decisions. For any trip, there are truly many alternatives based on individual needs, preferences and priorities. There are many roads to Texas.

In a similar vein, there are many roads to success. I was privileged to attend a retirement ceremony recently for a mid-level Airman who addressed the question of "am I successful?" He then went on to eloquently describe coming home late one evening and watching as his three kids ran down the stairs to hug and welcome him home from the office. Recounting this event brought a big smile to his face, as he stated without any hesitation, that having a loving family was indeed a sign of success in this life.

As the charges of religious intolerance at the Air Force Academy swirl in the news, and our senior leaders engage to

There are many roads to Texas

address the concerns, I am reminded about these simple comparisons of travel and success.

Life offers us multiple choices and roads, regardless of the arena. And if there are many roads to Texas, or to success, how is it possible there are not truly many roads to God? For those of us who believe in an omniscient, omnipresent, loving creator of our magnificent universe, and the source of our individual beings, how is it possible that any human can limit that creator to only one road to understanding, loving and worshipping him? If human life is richly diverse and varied, is it not reasonable to say that critical matters related to God are as varied as well? Does it make sense to say that only one religion offers the definitive road to God? I think not.

Religious tolerance, including tolerance of those who choose not to relate to formal religion at all, is critical for teamwork in the Air Force. But a deeper level is that of genuine respect — respect that others' roads to God are valid.

We need respect for the rich complexity and variety of possibilities for us as humans, in relation to all aspects of life, and in relation to God. After all, there are many roads to Texas.

Japanese students earn chance of a lifetime

Airman Alyssa Wallace
14th Flying Training Wing

For many people, the opportunity to study a labor of love in a country abroad is the chance of a lifetime.

First Lts. Kenji Murakami of Ehime, Japan, and Yuko Shibata of Nagoya, Japan, received that chance when they were accepted into the T-1 pilot training program here.

Both officers attended the Japanese Military Academy over five years ago. After completing Air Force Cadet School and Basic Flight Training, they volunteered for the Air Force T-1 training program.

"I've always loved the sky and the stars," Lieutenant Shibata said. "When I was a child I wanted to become an astronaut, but there aren't many female astronauts in my country."

She said here have been few female pilots in Japan so this was a great opportunity for her.

Lieutenants Murakami and Shibata are the first Japanese male and female pilots to graduate from T-1 training here.

To achieve this accomplishment, both lieutenants had to overcome a common obstacle – the language barrier.

"Sometimes I couldn't understand what the air traffic controllers were

saying," Lieutenant Murakami said. "It seemed like they were speaking so fast!"

Lieutenant Shibata also had problems with the language barrier, but she looked at the situation differently.

"I was taught to read and write English while I was in elementary school, but I only learned to speak the language a year and a half ago," she said.

Lieutenant Shibata said she had trouble understanding her instructor and classmates sometimes, but she still did well. She said that thanks to everything she learned from the American students, she now speaks

English better than she has before.

Despite the language barrier obstacles, both officers managed to successfully complete training.

"I've been really lucky," she said.

"Most people in my country go straight into the academy after high school, but I waited a year before I went. If I hadn't done that I don't think I'd be here now."

Lieutenant Murakami said Americans should be proud of their Air Force. He believes the service knows how to improve procedures for operations and make changes for the better.

"The U.S. Air Force has a great environment to educate its students," he said. "Being here taught me many

things that I can improve on and a lot of things that I can contribute to the Japan Air Self-Defense Force."

Both pilots graduate today and will return to Japan. They said they have deeply appreciated the opportunity to study with American soldiers.

"I'm going to miss it here," Lieutenant Murakami said. "I wish I could stay."



Lieutenant Murakami



Lieutenant Shibata

Airman loses stripes, gains bars in drug conviction

Senior Airman Amaani Lyle
52nd Fighter Wing

SPANGDAHLEM AB, Germany — People who raise their right hand in allegiance to the military know this promise inherently calls for resolute fearlessness.

Last summer, however, one Airman's involvement with narcotics made him realize there is a fine line between courage and audacity.

"I just honestly thought I could never get caught," said 20-year-old Airman Jake Hawkins, formerly a 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron pavement and equipment apprentice, now a Mannheim Correctional Facility prisoner.

Airman Hawkins left his family home in Spencer, Ind., when he was 17 with the same composite of nervousness, excitement and hope shared by many young people beginning their adult life.

"Right after 9-11, I accelerated all my high-school testing so I could finish school early and join the military," he said. "It was such a great feeling to hear people say, 'That boy's doing something positive with his life.'"

Now, one of the last things Airman Hawkins hears each night is the latch of the steel door — a constant reminder of his imprisonment for the introduction of

Ecstasy onto a military installation, as well as illegal use and distribution of the popular club drug.

Following tips from a couple of his friends and a subsequent investigation by the Air Force Office of Special Investigations, Airman Hawkins was apprehended July 29, 2004, in a dormitory sting transaction with an informant.

While he should have been on permanent-change-of-station status this summer to Moody AFB, Ga., his plans were instead thwarted by what he describes as shuffled priorities.

"I've definitely learned my lesson, and my priorities are straight now," Airman Hawkins said. "I'm all about supporting my family."

The stakes were much higher than he thought. Airman Hawkins said his lapse in judgment cost him the opportunity to see the birth of his twin girls this year. His reaction to the conviction seems almost unexpected in light of the consequences.

"In a way, getting busted was the best thing that ever happened to me," he said. "I still love the Air Force — I just got involved with the wrong environment, the wrong crowd. I was more worried about myself than my future."

The Airman said his future seemed, at best, uncertain once Air Force officials

became aware of his drug use.

"Airman Hawkins just about came to tears when he realized that this situation was very real, and he could lose everything he held close to heart — his job, his family, everything," said Master Sgt. Thomas Bathe, 52nd CES' pavements and equipment section chief and Airman Hawkins' second-line supervisor.

"I'm only sorry that when he was first presented the choice to use drugs or not, he didn't apply the standard of responsibility he's now brought to the forefront of his life," Sergeant Bathe said.

This very choice is one that an increasing number of adolescents must make each day. The opportunity to encounter Ecstasy grows in proportion to the staggering rate of its manufacture.

According to the Drug Enforcement Administration's Web site, the administration seized more than 3 million pills in 2000, with most of the pills likely manufactured in illegal pharmacies in western Europe. The drug can make its way into the hands of as many as 10 percent of ages 12 to 24.

"The majority of the world's Ecstasy continues to be produced in laboratories in the Netherlands and, to a lesser extent, Belgium," said Steven Casteel, DEA assistant administrator for intelligence. "Given the increasingly global demand for the drug

and the high-profit potential derived from its sale, production will likely expand to other areas in the future."

With Ecstasy being detected in more than 900 urinalysis tests conducted by the Department of Defense in 2001, the numbers show that Ecstasy pills are slipping past the gates of military installations just as easily as they bypass schoolyard fences.

Wherever drugs may end up, Sergeant Bathe said the responsibility is ultimately a personal one.

"After seeing this Airman's court martial, conviction and confinement, I would tell any servicemember who may be flirting with disaster to check his or her actions against the core values," Sergeant Bathe said. "The time will come when you're caught, but ask yourself two questions first: 'Would my family and God be proud of this?' and 'Would I be willing to take the punishment associated with my actions?'"

These actions led up to long days, gang showers, bunk beds and a forfeit of all privacy for Airman Hawkins. With about 12 months of confinement ahead of him before he returns to the civilian world, he stands by his message to Airmen.

"I grew up quickly and learned the hard way," Airman Hawkins said. "If you make bad decisions, eventually you will get caught. Period."

Services offers "cool" choices for summer fun

All-you-can-eat lunch buffet: The Columbus Club offers an all-you-can-eat lunch buffet from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. Cost is \$4.95 for everyone during August.

Tuesday features a mega salad bar and potato bar, Wednesday is fried chicken, smoked barbecue brisket with all the sides, Thursday is pork ribs, pulled pork, chicken wings and sloppy Joes with all the sides, and Friday is fish and chips with the mega-sized salad bar.

The a la carte menu is also available with a new 12-minute guarantee. If a patron's order is not ready in 12-minutes, his or her next lunch is free. Call Ext. 2490.

Boss and buddy night: The Columbus Club offers an all-ranks boss and buddy night from 5 to 8:30 p.m. Thursdays in the Landing Lounge. A free taco bar is available for club members and cost is \$2.95 for nonmembers. Beverage specials are also available. Call Ext. 2490.

Stampin' Up workshops: Crafters can create six scrapbooking layouts of different themes from 9 to 11 a.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. Aug. 25 and from 1 to 3 p.m. Sept. 27 at the 14th Services Division Complex. Participants must register at the youth center. Cost is \$15 and includes materials for up to six 12-inch-by-12-inch pages. Call Ext. 2504.

Skills development center classes: Adults can learn how to make a mosaic box Tuesday, an Uncle Sam wooden door hangar Tuesday, a ribbon-woven pillow Aug. 23 and a USA wooden door hanging Aug. 30.

Youth can learn how to make a personalized pillow case Wednesday, personalized place mat Aug. 17, bulletin board Aug. 24 and bumble bee clip Aug. 31.

All participants must register at least four days before the class date at the arts and crafts center. Stop by the center to see a display of the projects. Call Ext. 7836.

Cosmic country rock and bowl: The bowling center offers a rock and bowl from 9 p.m. to midnight Aug. 19 with country music on the sound system. Cost is \$2 per game and shoe rental is free. Call Ext. 2426.

Casino dinner trip: The information, ticket and travel office offers a trip to the Silver Star Casino in Philadelphia, Miss., Aug. 19. Cost is \$17 for club members, \$20 for nonmembers and includes transportation, \$10 in coins and a \$7 food voucher or \$17 in coins. Call Ext. 7861.

Give parents a break/Parents day out: This free childcare is offered from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Aug. 20. Cost is \$3 per hour per child and children must be registered by Aug. 17.

The Air Force Aid Society sponsors this program for active-duty Air Force families who are experiencing unique stresses such as deployments, remote tours of duty and extended working hours.

Families must be referred by one of the following: squadron commander or first sergeant, chaplain, doctor or medical professional, or personnel from family advocacy, the family support center or child development center. Call the child development center at Ext. 2479 and the youth center at Ext. 2504.

Champagne Sunday brunch: The Columbus Club offers this combination of breakfast and lunch entrees from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Aug. 21. Cost is \$9.95 for club members and \$12.95 for nonmembers. Ages 6 to 12 eat for \$5 and ages 5 and younger eat free. Call Ext. 2490.

Bowling center specials: For \$5, patrons can bowl two games with free shoe rental and receive their choice of a cheeseburger or hot dog, fries and regular drink from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Now through Labor Day, people can bowl for \$1 per game with 50 cent shoe rental.

The pro shop offers a red, white and blue single ball bowling bag for \$17 or two for \$30 while supplies last. Call Ext. 2426.

White water rafting trip: The information, ticket and travel office offers a trip to Ocoee, Tenn., to ride the white water rapids Sept. 10 through Sept. 12. Cost is \$105 per person for club members and \$120 for nonmembers. Cost includes a half-river trip, transportation, two nights lodging and three meals. Call Ext. 7861.

Bowl for the Stars and Strikes: Patrons who receive 10 punches on a Bowl For the Stars and Strikes punch card will receive two free games of bowling, a free soda and will be entered into a monthly drawing for a bowling ball. The last drawing is Aug. 15. Call Ext. 2426.

Pro football trips: The information, ticket and travel office offers several trips to New Orleans, La., to watch the Saints compete. Cost for a single-night trip is \$115 per person and includes transportation, double occupancy lodging and a ticket to the game. Single-night trips are avail-

able Oct. 1, Oct. 29, Dec. 3 and Dec. 23.

Two-night trips are available Sept. 16 to Sept. 18, Oct. 14 to Oct. 16, Nov. 4 to Nov. 6 and Dec. 16 to Dec. 18. Cost is \$175 per person and includes transportation, double occupancy lodging and a ticket to the game. Call Ext. 7861.

Spelunking adventure: Register at outdoor recreation for this spelunking trip Oct. 8 and Oct. 9. Cost is \$75 per person and includes transportation, cave camping and breakfast. Call Ext. 7861.

Story time readers needed: The base library needs volunteers to read during its story time for preschool-aged children, which will begin in September. This 30-minute program is offered at 10 a.m. every Wednesday. To volunteer, call the library at Ext. 2934.

Ballet classes: Register now for the ballet classes starting Aug. 29. Pre-ballet for ages 4 to 6 is from 4 to 4:45 p.m. Mondays; Ballet I for ages 6 to 9 is from 4 to 5 p.m. Wednesdays; and Ballet II for ages 10 and older is from 5 to 6 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. Cost is \$35 per month. Weekly classes can be purchased for \$9 each week. Call the youth center at Ext. 2504.

Wade in the water

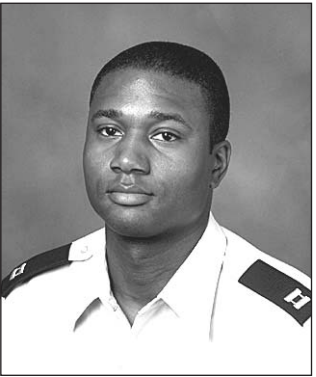


Pam Wickham

Beth Madeline and her daughter, Christi, cool off at Independence Pool. Until Sept. 5, the pool's new hours are noon to 7 p.m. daily, except Tuesday when it is closed. Lap swimming is offered from noon to 1:30 p.m. and 4:30 to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. Pool parties may still be reserved for all evenings except Tuesdays. After Sept. 5, the pool will be open weekends only from noon to 7 p.m. . The facility will close the season Sept. 25. For more information, call Ext. 2507.



Capt. Christopher Israel
Florence, Miss.
KC-135, McConnell AFB, Kan.



Capt. Howard Thomas
San Diego, Calif. (AFRC)
KC-10, Travis AFB, Calif.



1st Lt. Landon Chang
Hilo, Hawaii
C-17, Charleston AFB, S.C.



1st Lt. Yuko Shibata
Nagoya, Japan
JASDF, Japan



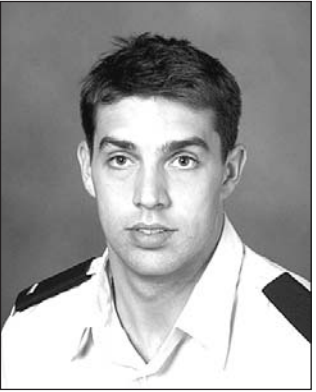
1st Lt. Allen Smith
Gaylord, Mich.
C-130, Little Rock AFB, Ark.



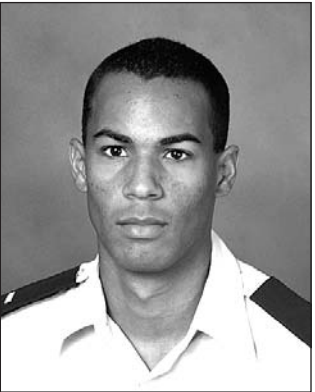
1st Lt. Ryan Thornton
Mcalester, Okla.
T-1, Columbus AFB, Miss.



2nd Lt. Brandon Cowell
Arlington, Tenn.
C-130, Keesler AFB, Miss.



2nd Lt. Joshua Desfalvy
St. Louis, Mo.
KC-10, Travis AFB, Calif.



2nd Lt. Marcus Flagg
College Station, Texas
A-10, Davis Monthan AFB, Ariz.

SUPT Class 05-13 earns silver wings

Twenty-four officers have prevailed during a year of training, earning the right to be an Air Force pilot.

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 05-13 graduates at 10 a.m. today during a ceremony at the theater.

The graduation speaker is Col. James Holmes, 4th Fighter Wing commander, Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C. The wing is home to the multi-role, all-weather F-15E Strike Eagle providing world-wide deployable aircraft and personnel capable of executing combat missions in support of the Aerospace Expeditionary Force. Colonel Holmes manages and controls assets that exceed \$4.8 billion, and he executes an annual operations and maintenance budget of \$193 million.

Students receive their silver pilot's wings at the ceremony, and students who excelled in their respective training tracks are recognized.

Second Lts. Brad Matherne, T-38, and Joseph Aholt, T-1, received the Air Education and Training Command Commander's Trophy for being the most outstanding students overall in their classes.

The Air Force Association Award was presented to 2nd Lt. Michael Clapp, T-1, and 1st Lt. Joseph Shetterly, T-38. The award is presented to a graduate in each flight who excelled in training and typified the tenets of the association — promoting aerospace power and a strong national defense.

Lieutenants Matherne and Aholt, and 2nd Lt. Joshua Desfalvy, T-1, were named distinguished graduates.

The 52-week pilot training program begins with a six-week preflight phase of academics and physiological training to prepare students for flight.

The second phase, primary training, is conducted in the twin-engine, subsonic T-37 Tweet. Some complete this phase in the single-engine, turboprop T-6A Texan 2 at Moody AFB, Ga. Students learn aircraft flight characteristics, emergency procedures, takeoff and landing procedures, aerobatics and formation flying. Students also practice night, instrument and cross country navigation flying.

Primary training takes about 23 weeks and includes 254.4 hours of ground training, 27.3 hours in the flight simulator and 89 flying hours.

After primary training, students select, by order of merit, advanced training in the fighter-bomber or airlift-tanker track.

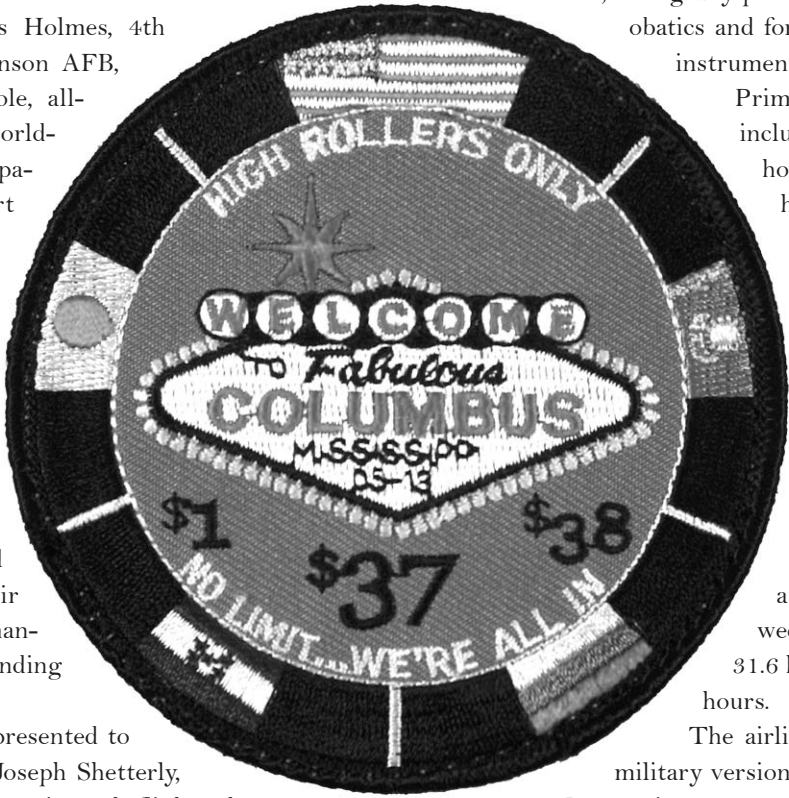
Both tracks are designed to best train pilots for successful transition to their follow-on aircraft and mission.

Advanced training for the fighter track is done in the T-38 Talon, a tandem-seat, twin-engine supersonic jet. T-38 training emphasizes formation, advanced aerobatics and navigation. Training takes about 26 weeks and includes 381 hours of ground events, 31.6 hours in the flight simulator and 118.7 flying hours.

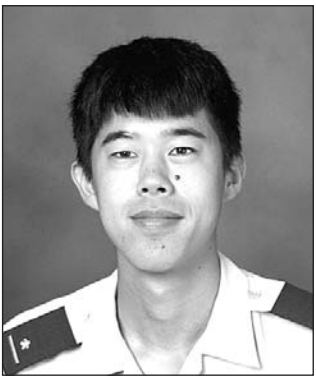
The airlift-tanker track uses the T-1A Jayhawk, the military version of a multi-place business jet.

Instruction centers on crew coordination and management, instrument training, cross-country flying and simulated refueling and airdrop missions. Training takes about 26 weeks and includes 185 hours of ground training, 43 hours in the flight simulator and 104 flying hours.

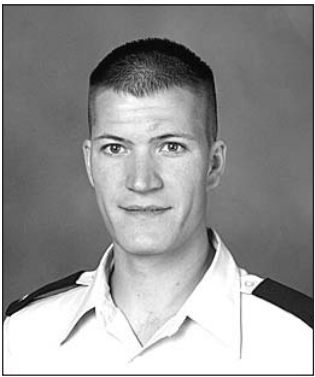
The class reunites on graduation day, when students receive the aeronautical rating of pilot and begin their careers as U.S. Air Force pilots. *(Editor's note: The class's pilot partners are GNC and Columbus Hematology & Oncology.)*



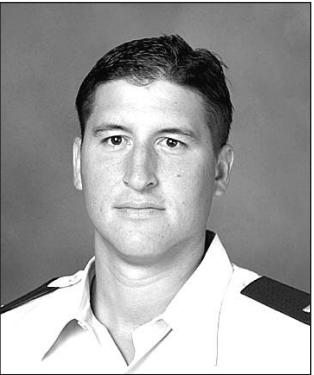
1st Lt. Karl Easterly
Laguna Niguel, Calif.
E-3, Tinker AFB, Okla.



1st Lt. Kenji Murakami
Ehime, Japan
JASDF, Japan



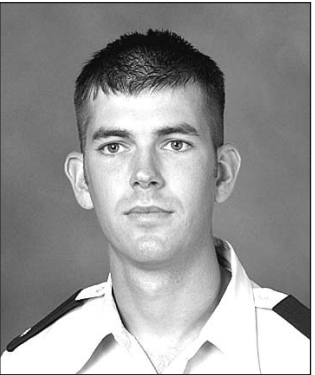
1st Lt. Joe Shetterly
Olathe, Kan.
A-10, Davis Monthan AFB, Ariz.



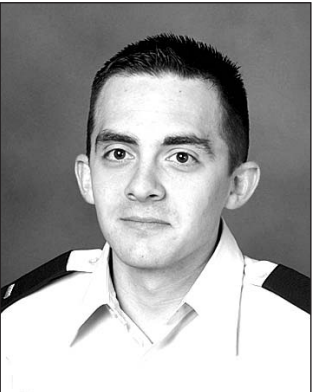
2nd Lt. Joseph Aholt
Okawville, Ill. (ANG)
C-17, Hickam AFB, Hawaii



2nd Lt. Eric Bromley
Wilmington, Mass.
T-38, Columbus AFB, Miss.



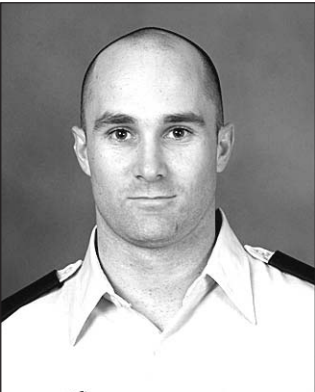
2nd Lt. Michael Clapp
Sunnyside, Wash.
KC-135, Fairchild AFB, Wash.



2nd Lt. Adam Gorrell
Oak Grove, Mo.
B-1, Dyess AFB, Texas



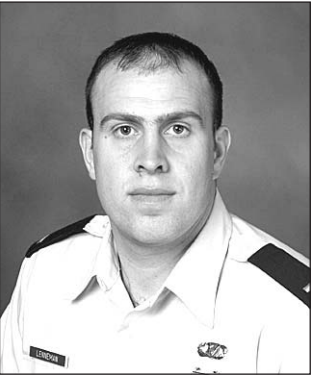
2nd Lt. Timothy Grebs
Bethlehem, Penn.
T-37, Columbus AFB, Miss.



2nd Lt. Thomas Harper
Helena, Ark.
KC-135, Grand Forks AFB, N.D.



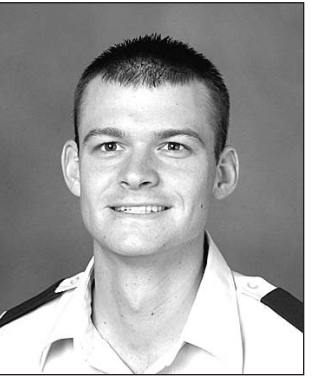
T-1A Jayhawk



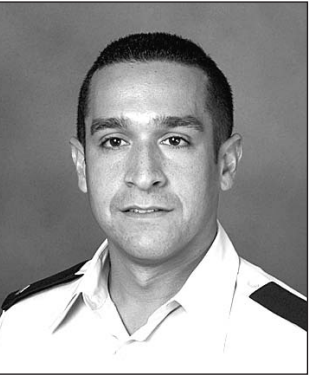
2nd Lt. Joshua Lenneman
East Lansing, Mich. (ANG)
C-130, Mansfield, Ohio



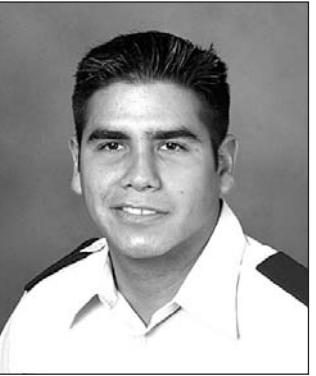
2nd Lt. Brad Matherne
Colleyville, Texas
F-16, Luke AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. David Nagle
Point Pleasant, N.J.
A-10, Davis Monthan AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Luis Rodriguez
Guayama, Puerto Rico
C-17, McCord AFB, Wash.



2nd Lt. John Tudela
Columbus, Ohio (ANG)
KC-135, Rickenbacker ANGB, Ohio



2nd Lt. Joe Van Wie
Wisconsin Dells, Wis.
KC-135, Salt Lake City, Utah



T-38C Talon

M
o
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Today
“**Bewitched**”
(PG-13, some lan-
guage, including sex
and drug references
and partial nudity,
102 min.)
Starring: Nicole Kidman
and Will Ferrell.

Saturday
“**Rebound**”
(PG, mild language
and thematic ele-
ments, 103 min.)
Starring: Martin
Lawrence and Wendy
Raquel Robinson.

All movies are
shown at 7 p.m. at
the base theater,
unless otherwise
noted. For more
information, visit
www.cafb
services.com.

Chapel Schedule

Catholic

Sunday:
9:15 a.m. — Mass
5 p.m. — Confessions
5:30 p.m. — SUPT Mass

Protestant

Sunday:
9 a.m. — Adult and children’s
Sunday School
10:45 a.m. — Combined service
(Contemporary/Traditional)
Wednesday:
9:30 a.m. — Ladies Bible study
11:30 a.m. — Lunchtime study
5:30 p.m. — Pot luck supper and
Bible study

Religious studies

A chapel community provides a variety of religious studies every Wednesday at the chapel annex. A ladies’ study, “Managing Your Time” by Jean Syswerda, is from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.; a lunchtime study, “The Fruit of the Spirit” by Stuart Briscot, is from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; and an evening study, an overview of the Bible led by Tom Marlin, is from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. For more information, call the chapel at Ext. 2500.

Base Notes

Education advisor needed

The education center is in search of applicants to fulfill the assistant education advisor and distance learning monitor position from Oct. 1 through Sept. 30, 2006. A baccalaureate degree is required. For details on how to apply, call Ramona Ferguson at Ext. 7763. For details pertaining to the job, call Jose Dorta at Ext. 2565.

Thrift Shop

The Thrift Shop, located at Building 345, C Street, is open from 3 to 6 p.m. Tuesdays and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursdays. Consignments are accepted until one hour from closing. Volunteers are welcome. For more information, call 434-2954.

Family Support Center

(Editor’s note: *All activities are offered at the family support center unless otherwise specified. For more information about any of the activities listed, call Ext. 2790.*)

Spouse welcome

A welcome reception for spouses new to Columbus AFB is from 10 to 11 a.m. every Wednesday at the Magnolia Inn Lobby. Spouses will receive gifts and information about the family support center.

Relaxation course

The second class of this two-part relaxation series is from 11 a.m. to noon Aug. 16. Participants will learn how to use 45-minute progressive relaxation techniques to reduce stress. Registration is required by Aug. 5.

Smooth move

A workshop for relocating families is from 10 a.m. to noon Aug. 18. Participants will learn what to expect from the travel management office, housing, military pay, legal, billeting, Tricare and the family support center. Registration is required by Aug. 17.

Hearts Apart social

A social gathering for families of personnel deployed or remote for more than 30 days is from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Aug. 18. Information, refreshments and prizes are provided.

Heart Link

The next Heart Link spouse orientation is from 8:45 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. Aug. 22. Spouses will receive prizes and information on protocol, finances, benefits, helping agencies and local conditions. Registration is required by Aug. 18.

Air Force Aid Society

The Air Force Aid Society offers 24-hour emergency assistance. Possible aid includes interest-free loans, grants, car repairs and emergency travel. For more information about the organization, call the family support center.

Un“bee”lieveable!



Pam Wickham

Fred McKenney, 14th Services Division director, presents Linda Norman, bowling center snack bar supervisor, with \$100 for her idea to incorporate a bumble bee into the new services logo. Linda is holding the unit mascot, which is presented each month to a services activity or group of employees that provide un“bee”lievable service to their customers.

DAV volunteers: People interested in driving members of the local chapter of the Disabled American Veterans should call 244-0391.

Stitches From the Heart: Stitches From the Heart seeks volunteers to knit, crochet or quilt blankets, sweaters and hats for babies in need. For more information, call Kathy Silvertown at (866) 472-6903.

Host families needed: Student exchange Cultural Academic Student Exchange Inc. seeks families in the Golden Triangle area to be host families for high school foreign exchange students. For more information, call (800) 458-8336.

Christian concert: Christian band Big Daddy Weave performs at 6:30 p.m. Sunday at the Trotter Convention Center in downtown Columbus. Admission is \$7 at the

door and advance tickets can be purchased at First United Methodist Church or New Life Christian Supplies.

The band was recognized as the best selling new Christian retail artist in 2002 and since then have garnered four “Top 3” radio singles. For more information about the concert, call 328-5252.

Lake Lowndes duathlon: Lake Lowndes State Park will hold its annual duathlon at 8 a.m. Aug. 20. Entry fee is \$20 before the day of the race and \$25 race day. It is a 2-mile run in the park, and 14-mile bike race and another 2-mile run back in the park. For more information, contact the Lake Lowndes State Park at 328-2110 or visit lakelowndes@mdwfp.state.ms.us.

Suicide prevention: A suicide prevention seminar is from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Aug. 26 at the Trotter

Convention Center in downtown Columbus. There is no registration fee, and continuing education credits are available for \$20. For more information about the seminar, call 328-0200 or (800) 377-1643.

Poetry reading and book review: The Sandfield Horizon Committee holds an open-mic poetry reading and book review at 5:15 p.m. every fourth Sunday at the Sandfield Community Center. Readings begin at 5:15 p.m. and the book review begins at 6:30 p.m.

Historic home tours: Drop by or call the Mississippi Welcome Center or Columbus Historic Foundation for schedules of historic homes that open daily to the public for tour. For admission prices or more information, call (800) 920-3533.

For more event listings, visit www.columbus-ms.org.

BARGAIN LINE

Bargain Line advertisement

The Bargain Line is free for all military members (including guard and reserve members), DOD civilians, military retirees, family members and contract employees.

Bargain Line advertisements must be turned in to the Silver Wings office in the 14th Flying Training Wing headquarters building by noon Monday to be included in the following week's issue. Late ads will be held over for the next issue.

Reruns must be phoned in to the Silver Wings office, 434-7068, by noon Monday for inclusion in the next week's issue. Please do not re-submit ads for rerun on this form. Advertisements should contain a home phone number, home address or both. Duty phone numbers will not appear in the ads.

Advertisements for private businesses or services providing a continuous source of income, such as baby-sitting or rental property, may not appear in the Bargain Line. They may, however, be purchased through the Silver Wings publisher, 328-2424. Please fill out this form completely. The Silver Wings staff reserves the right to edit ads as necessary.

Type of advertisement (circle one) Home Transportation Miscellaneous Yard sales Pets

Print advertisement _____

Name _____

Home Telephone # _____ Duty Telephone # _____
(in case we need more information)

Please let us know what you think of the Silver Wings:

Are you happy with the Silver Wings? Yes ☐ No ☐

What would you like to see more of in the newspaper? News ☐ Sports ☐ Photos ☐ Other _____

If you would like to give any other suggestions, please e-mail us at silverwings@columbus.af.mil.

Shorts

Health promotion classes

The health and wellness center offers a variety of health promotion classes. A hypertension class is from 9 to 10 a.m. Wednesday. A cholesterol education class is from 9 to 10:30 a.m. Aug. 24. Most classes are offered monthly. For more information, call the center at Ext. 2477 or e-mail HAWC@columbus.af.mil.

Youth fall soccer

Register now through Aug. 19 for the youth soccer program at the youth center. Cost is \$25 for youth center members and \$35 for nonmembers. The youth soccer program is open to ages 3 and older. For more information, call Ext. 2504.

Winter/fall bowling leagues

The bowling center is now accepting sign-ups for the fall and winter bowling leagues. The leagues will begin in the middle of September. There will be mixed double, ladies, mixed four, seniors and mixed four nine-pin no tap. For more information, call Ext. 2426.

Aerobics instructors needed

The fitness center is looking for certified aerobics instructors. For more information about these employment opportunities, call Ext. 2773.

Women's Equality fun run

A Women's Equality Day fun run/walk begins at 7 a.m. Aug. 19 in front of the fitness center. Family, children and pets are invited to run a 5k course or walk a 1.5-mile course. For more information, call Ext. 2772.

One-person scramble

Golfers can legally take two shots during this one-person golf scramble Aug. 20 at the Whispering Pines Golf Course. Entry is \$15 plus greens fees. The deadline to register for this event is Aug. 19. For more information, call Ext. 7932.

Three Ladies Scramble

This 18-hole scramble is scheduled for Sept. 24 at Whispering Pines Golf Course. The tournament is open to the public as well as Columbus AFB personnel. All food, prizes and golf cart fees will be included in the \$150 registration fee per three-person team. Participation is limited to the first 36 teams to register. For more information about the tournament, call Ext. 7932.

Air superiority: 48 years of Falcon Football

Wayne Amann
U.S. Air Force Academy

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. — Jim Bowman and Falcon football have been attached at the hip pad for 48 of the program's 50 years. When Air Force kicks off Sept. 3 against the Washington Huskies, it will be the 534th Falcon game played during Mr. Bowman's tenure.

The former freshman and junior varsity coach turned associate athletic director for recruiting support speaks with father-like pride, when recalling the players, coaches, teams and games that make up nearly a half century of memories. Ironically, it is not the on-field exploits that matter most to him.

"The best thing about this school is what these athletes do after they leave here, how they turn out as people," the 72-year-old Michigan native said. "We've had major command leaders, wing commanders, astronauts, war heroes and more. That's more important than how many touchdowns they score."

The academy ranks second in the National Collegiate Athletic Association with 25 players earning postgraduate scholarships.

"Before we joined the Western Athletic Conference in 1981 our players didn't get recognized for being all-conference or all-academic all-conference," he said. "A lot of teams in the early 1960s and 1970s (that had) great student-athletes didn't get credit for anything."

The three-pronged mission of Air Force football is to beat Army and Navy, win the conference title and play in a bowl game.

The interservice rivalry among the academies intensified in 1972 when former academy athletic director George Simler originated the idea of the Commander-In-Chief's Trophy, given each season to the academy that wins the round-robin series among the three schools. Air Force has brought the trophy home 16 times, Navy seven and Army six. There have been four ties when each school goes 1-1 and the trophy stays with its previous winner.

The first Air Force and Army game, a 13-13 tie, was played on Halloween 1959 in New York's Yankee Stadium. The first Air Force and Navy clash kicked off the next

year in Baltimore. The Midshipmen won 35-3 behind Heisman Trophy winner Joe Bellino.

"We were a heavy underdog to Army," Mr. Bowman said. "Our goal back then was to be competitive, play big schools and get the name Air Force across the country. Our overall record shows we've been pretty successful."

Entering the 2005 campaign the Falcons sport a 45-21-0 (.681) interservice series record compared to Navy's 29-36-1 (.447) and Army's 24-41-1 (.371)

"Our first win over another service academy was the 1965 Army game, 14-3, in Chicago's Soldier Field," Mr. Bowman said. "Our quarterback was Paul Stein, who later became superintendent here. ... The first win over Navy was in 1966, 15-7, here."

The one game recognized by those familiar with Falcon history as putting the football program on the national map, was the 13-13 tie against Big Ten Champion Iowa on Oct. 4, 1958, in the Hawkeyes backyard. Iowa was such a huge favorite no points were quoted on the game. The Falcons spotted Iowa 21 pounds per man in the line.

"It was my first year here, and (the academy) hadn't graduated a class yet, they had 1,100 students," he said. "Some buildings weren't finished. We played our home games in Denver because we had no stadium, but we did have a great class, some great sophomores. For them to go undefeated against the schedule we played, then



U.S. Air Force photo

Falcon head coach Ben Martin (left) and Jim Bowman check the U.S. Air Force Academy roster sheet in this 1961 photo. Mr. Bowman has been with the Academy for 48 years.

tie (Texas Christian University), 0-0, in the Cotton Bowl was very special. People said who are those guys? How could they beat powerhouse teams? That carried over."

Mr. Bowman's nostalgic look at academy football, and athletics in general here, goes well beyond wins and loss.

"We've had 17 bowl games in 49 seasons. I've been to all of them," he said. "TV has spread the Air Force name nationwide. People know there is an Air Force Academy. It helps stimulate cadet candidates, attracting outstanding leaders for this country."

"It's a privilege to have this great job here where all our grads become outstanding officers and pillars in the community," he said. "The fun part is when the players I coached come back as colonels or generals or successful business people. They remember me, and I remember them."

National KidsDay 2005

BLAZE TEAM celebrates its children with fun, games at Freedom Park



Airman 1st Class Cecilia Rodriguez



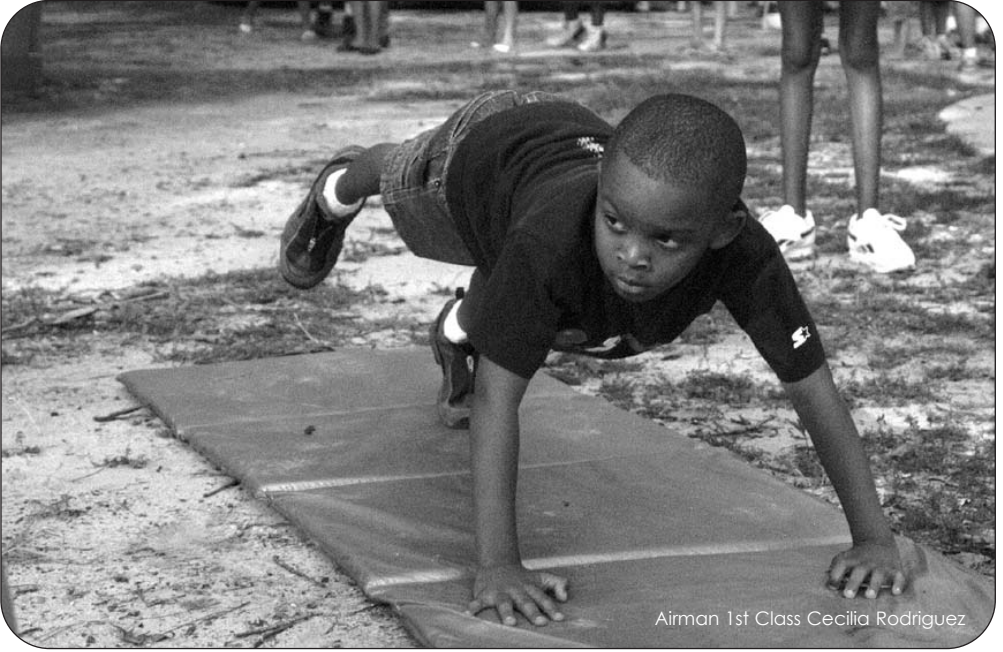
2nd Lt. Lea Lato

Cyaira Rosas, 7, bubbles over with excitement as she experiments with soapy water.

Top: KidsDay volunteer Holly Nodine transforms Sara Todd, 8, into a spotted puppy. Right: Alyse Zokal, 3, smiles for the camera with special guest McGruff the Crime Dog.



2nd Lt. Lea Lato



Airman 1st Class Cecilia Rodriguez

Five-year-old Joshua Austin reveals his upper-body strength at the health and wellness center's circuit training station. Children performed sit-ups, push-ups, jumping jacks and squats to test their cardiovascular and muscular endurance.